

INDIANA SECURED SCHOOL SAFETY BOARD MEETING

Indiana Government Center - South

Conference Room D

302 W. Washington Street

Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

6-24-2013

Members present:

Bowlen, Eric (Martinsville)

Carter, Doug (ISP)

Eslinger, Mike (Parke County)

Hill, John (IDHS)

Reske, Scott (DOE)

Zoeller, Greg (ATG Office)

Members absent:

Allen, Mary (CJI)

Proxy:

Ross, Josh (CJI)

Staff:

Davis, Bridget (IDHS)

Hopkins, Larry (ATG Office)

Karns, Allison (IDHS)

Snyder, Mara (IDHS)

The meeting was called to order by Director Hill who welcomed everyone. It was determined that there was a quorum. Staff introductions were made.

Discussion of Indiana Code IC 10-21-3:

The statutory authority was discussed.

Grant conditions and board guidance to grant applicants were the next items discussed by the Board. The following issues were discussed but not voted on:

- The main role of the Board is to approve the grant guidance document going out. The Board has to authorize and establish criteria for the grant. The guidance needs to be clear as to what schools can apply for.
- The goals of the program and what the Board intends for schools to achieve as a result of investing in this grant should be written into the grant solicitation document.
- Schools that don't have a school safety commission can't obtain any funding. Schools must form a commission and must have a school safety plan.
- There is one award to each school corporation or charter school per year. If the school misses the application deadline, they can apply next year; however, there was discussion about allowing schools to apply if the initial deadline is missed, and, depending on the available funding. The goal is to make the process as open as possible. The grant funding must be given away within two years. If the funds are exhausted, it would show the need. The Attorney General mentioned that permanent funding for this grant is important.
- Schools may be interested in upgrading their school safety systems by hardening the infrastructure and limiting access. Schools might be hesitant to hire a School Resource Officer (SRO) because of the sustainability factor.
- The Attorney General noted that the school resource officer is there to serve, protect and re-establish a bond between students and officers. Respecting law enforcement is a natural benefit from deploying SRO's.
- The SRO, as enumerated in Indiana Code, must be a law enforcement individual. The SRO must have met or will have met the required training of a one week 40 hour class. SROs attend a two day advanced training to maintain their certificate each year.
- IDHS is prepared to manage the grant process. IDHS will hire two contractors to help educate the schools concerning the grant application and implementation process. There will be lots of questions and outreach is important. Good data reporting should be encouraged. The Board recommends that schools not spend more than 15% of their award on consultants who provide a plan. IDHS internal grants will help the Department of Education to expand the number of audits, minimizing the expenditure and get the funds to the schools.
- There should be an evaluation of how the school corporation meets the standards that have been established.
- The Board discussed that NASRO would be the predominate training program.
- The Board discussed that the grant solicitation should be given out as soon as possible.
- The Board does not have to meet routinely, but will convene after the staff determines what the awards look like and how well they meet the definition. The Board will then approve or disapprove of the applications.

Next Meeting Time and Location:
TBD

Adjournment:

Chairman Hill adjourned the meeting at 2:30 p.m.

DRAFT